MS AF **REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

EXAMINING GROUP Docket No. AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER 1152-0305P Application No. Filing Date Examiner Art Unit K. S. Joerger 3653 10/643,924-Conf. #4765 August 20, 2003 Applicant(s): Hideaki KADOWAKI et al. Invention: SHEET FEEDER AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS HAVING THE SAME MS AF **Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below. **CLAIMS AS AMENDED** Claims Highest Number Number Remaining After Previously **Extra Claims** Amendment Rate Paid Present **Total Claims** 20 0 Independent 1 3 0 Х Claims Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) Other fee (please specify): TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT: 0.00 x | Large Entity Small Entity x No additional fee is required for this amendment. Please charge Deposit Account No. in the amount of \$ A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. A check in the amount of \$ is enclosed. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

X The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 02-2448 as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. Credit any overpayment. Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17. Dated: May 17, 2006 Charles Gorenstein Attorney Reg. No.: /29/271 BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP 8110 Gatehouse Road

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Docket No.: 1152-0305P

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Hideaki KADOWAKI et al.

Application No.: 10/643,924

Confirmation No.: 4765

Filed: August 20, 2003

Art Unit: 3653

For: SHEET FEEDER AND IMAGE FORMING

APPARATUS HAVING THE SAME

Examiner: K. S. Joerger

REPLY AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the final Office Action dated March 21, 2006, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This reply includes:

- Amendments to the Specification;
- Amended Claim Set; and
- Remarks.